

From: Bill Giorgi <billgiorgi@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 10:41 AM
To: Caldwell, Andy
Cc: sbcob; Williams, Das; Lavagnino, Steve; Nelson, Bob; Hartmann, Joan; Laura Capps
Subject: Re: Public comment D-7

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Your comment is right on the money Andy. Thank you from the many of us you represent in our county.

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisor members: No matter what district I am in, your decision on this matter affects me and all the other citizens and visitors of our county, because the criminals released are throughout our whole county. The crime rate is now rampant across our county. Not because law enforcement is not doing their job, but because of your decisions to release criminals back into society. If you want to work on ways to have them become contributing members of society, please do it while they are in jail, and then evaluate the results to make sure they will be successful, before turning them back out into society.

The biggest change I have seen since I graduated college in 1973 and began managing Nojoqui Falls Ranch, was when the three strikes law was enacted. After a couple of years, crime which affected my ranch and our county, dropped. It dropped a lot! I would say close to 90 percent of these people who continually preyed on society to feed their drug habits, or not working for whatever reason, were removed from society and placed in jail. Remember, it was three strikes. It was not like they didn't have a chance or a warning to stop preying on working, contributing members of our society who want to work and raise their families in a peaceful, safe environment. Many of these people already had a long list of crimes they had committed. It had become a way of life for them.

We are also indirectly affected by policies such as this one, because every time one of these criminals is allowed to walk out of a store with merchandise, I, along with everyone else that buys from that store, pays for it. This drives up my cost of production, along with my ability to feed my family and survive on our long time family ranch. This also affects the store and business owners. I now see where some big chain stores are pulling out of areas where the politicians have enacted measures like this that no longer hold people accountable for their bad actions. We are sending these people a message that it is now ok to steal! Local store owners now can't compete with online orders from areas across our nation that don't have these types of political caused problems. Small businesses and store owners are suffering from this. Some will be forced to close. Certain areas will decline with businesses closing.

I have participated and sat on many county commissions and committees over the years. The county used to be concerned about keeping the family ranches intact and viable, and protecting their citizens from harm. Those types of policies seem to have now disappeared in practice by these new policies you are passing. How do these types of new policies, which have definite impacts to other county policies, fit in with the county's policies to enhance and protect agriculture? What about other policies which are in effect to protect and create a safe and healthy place for the citizens in our county to live in? Has an analysis been done to make sure this new policy isn't in conflict with any other current county policies?

I am hoping you will keep violent criminals in jail, although I have seen some released. I hope you will also keep habitual criminals, that just prey on members of our society, in jail.

Thank you for your consideration, the Giorgi Family, Nojoqui Falls Ranch.

On Mon, May 15, 2023 at 10:48 AM Andy Caldwell <andy@colabsbc.org> wrote:

Chair Williams and Members of the Board,

COLAB is COMPLETELY opposed to the plan to downsize the holding capacity of the main jail.

What we believe you should do instead is create a savings/spending plan similar to that which enabled you to build the north county jail.

Sans any matching funds from the state, you should consider floating a COP.

Why do we feel this way? Our business members are getting ripped off on a regular basis. Retailers each and every day. Farmers and ranchers at least monthly.

People don't feel safe in our communities. Crime is out of control.

Moreover, there is ample evidence that your plans to divert criminals from jail is an abysmal failure.

Andy Caldwell

COLAB

Sent from my iPad